GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2168
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2004
CBI INVESTIGATION IN KERALA
Krishnadas Shri N.N.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has asked CBI to investigate a criminal incident occurred in Wynad district between police and tribal people;

(b) if so, the terms and references of the investigation; and

(c) the present status of the investigation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Through a notification dated 17th May, 2003, the Government of Kerala handed over to CBI the investigation of seven criminal cases registered in Sulthan Bathery police station, Wayanad district, in connection with incidents that occurred in the Muthanga forest area from 17.02.2003 onwards. One of these cases related to death of one person in police action on 19.02.2003 and six cases related to incidents of alleged abduction, detention, assault and attacks on forest and police officials, while trying to evict the encroachers on Muthanga forest region. In addition, the State Government entrusted an enquiry into police firing, circumstances leading to the same and related incidents including various allegations of torture, which took place in Muthanga forest region on 19.2.2003. This was done in pursuance of the National Human Rights Commission`s recommendation that an independent enquiry be conducted into these incidents, preferably by CBI.

(c): The investigation in all the cases that were handed over to CBI, have been completed and charge-sheets filed. In so far as the incident of police firing is concerned, enquiry by the CBI did not reveal any lapses on the part of the police while dealing with the situation at Muthanga.